■ VIEWPOINT

The dangers of vicarious sex in modern life

That more and more sex films are being shown in the cinemas and now also on television is neither fortuitous nor the sole result of commercial exploitation. In a survey carried out on behalf of the Munich institute for youth affairs and educational aspects of film and television, and also on behalf of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Professor Franz Zöchbauer examined the social and psychological origins of the "sex wave." The conclusions he came to were interesting.

The rash of recent sex films of a decidedly pornographic bent is still spreading, battering at the last bulwarks of propriety to hold out. Sex, as frank as could be, is now a natural ingredient even of films with critical pretensions. It is a "must" in comedies and films that allegedly probe young people's innermost problems.

Professor Zöchbauer suspects that these films reflect actual social conditions and the emotional desires of the masses released largely by advertising. He regards the sex film as a consequence of man's growing self-alienation.

The sex film promises illusory security in sexual life. But Professor Zöchbauer also regards sex films as symptoms of a lack in people. Sex educational films assert their validity by claiming to contribute towards remedying this deficiency.

"Belief in the view that anything can be rectified seems to have been extended to sexual problems. A kind of erotic engineer has appeared on the scene, promising to fix matters in the twinkling of an eye," writes Professor Zöchbauer.

The professor also drew attention to the political background of these films. Sex films are used systematically by those in power a) to heighten sexual needs, aggravating guilt feelings amid social repressions and rigid moral dictates, thus making it easier to handle people; and b) to concentrate the attention of the suppressed on sexual matters, diverting their attention from political affairs.

Professor Zöchbauer advances these views more or less without comment, but it is clear that personally he sees in the enormous range of sex products a dialectic counter-movement to psuedo-Christian Puritanism. The swing of the pendulum in the other direction has resulted in over-emphasis on sex and over-concern with isolated gratification.

This has led to uncertainty in standards of judgement, as far as these films are concerned, Professor Zöchbauer concluded. Most traditional arguments have become wothless. For example, the notion that sex films stimulate compulsive eroticism or represent an encroachment into the intimate sphere.

Professor Zöchbauer recognises a greater danger in the propagation of expectations and modes of behaviour. What he means is that a person's sexual partner in the sexual act is compared with an illusory partner -- from the cinema for example.

The dangerous model of possessive love is also developed in many of these films. Especially in secret service films the woman is a mere article of consumption and is used accordingly. Professor Zöchbauer speaks of "modern slavery."

The survey points to another dubious effect of great significance. Since every vital function requires its own incentive, sex films could certainly prolong the individual's sexual interest, potency and vitality. But they could also have the effect of breeding violence. If an individual, brought to a high emotional pitch by such films, is denied an opportunity to work off this emotional intensity, he or she could well find a release in aggressiveness.

This would then take the form of a Sunday row in the family, slapping children or an itching for a fight. This, in Professor Zöchbauer's opinion, is as harmful to the individual as indiscriminate and reckless sexual activity.

(Hannoversche Presse, 30 May 1969)



A scene from Owald Kolle's film 'Das Wunder der Liebe'
(Photo: Arca-Film/Inter-Verleih/Weissbrich)



The German Tribune

Hamburg, 24 June 1969
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West's defence problems in a world context

Political talks between the Russians and the Americans have been on the cards ever since it has been clear that the Americans are gradually to withdraw their troops from Vietnam. For the Soviet Union the Vietnam question has made negotiations with the Americans a none too attractive proposition, yet the arms race makes talks vitally important for both.

Since the Second World War the Russians have almost caught up with the Americans in military technology and now that both superpowers have reached approximately the same military level their interests must necessarily increasingly coincide.

Western Europe has mixed feelings about talks between Washington and Moscow. Military men in particular are afraid that America will make unilateral concessions at the expense of Western European security.

It is pointed out that the rotation principle practised by the Americans has in practide amounted to a reduction in US military presence of roughly ten per cent. A sceptical view is also taken of Defence Secretary Laird's assurance that the United States will not for the time being be withdrawing troops from Europe.

The Nixon administration is under powerful pressure on this subject. Influential senators such as Mike Mansfield and Stuart Symington reckon that 100,000 American troops in Germany are ample. At present more than 200,000 GIs are stationed in this country.

Tough negotiation over offset payments for the foreign exchange costs of stationing troops in Germany are another indication that US troopstrength could be reduced in the foreseeable future, even though the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia may have postponed the decision.

The conventional superiority of Warsaw Pact forces over Nato's divisions and the fear of unilateral American concessions decided Britain and this country to make a joint study the result of which was a proposal for the lowering of the nuclear threshold.

As was to be expected the Americans were far from overjoyed when the proposal was aired at a session of the Nato nuclear planning group.

The Americans reckon that a major war is unlikely in Europe. One of the results of the Cuban crisis was that the two superpowers respected their respective spheres of influence and acknowledged the status quo.

Frontier incidents are all that is held to be possible. Efforts are being made to cater for the minor conflicts that are held possible by means of planning for limited counter-strikes. This is why the flexible response concept superseded that of massive retaliation.

The Americans have thus intentionally raised the nuclear threshold. As a result conventional troops in Europe are of increased importance. Work on a strengthening of conventional defences has begun — in the Luftwaffe, for instance — but the army is as good as unchanged to meet the requirements of the new strategic concept.

The Bundeswehr, for instance, is basically stationed and organised in exactly the same way as when it was first established. Its main forces are concentrated 125 to 200 miles to the west of the zonal border.

If frontier incidents are to be taken as the most likely form of warfare ought it not to be more in this country's interest to station larger numbers of conventional forces in more advanced positions in order to keep losses of terrain as small as possible until a decision on whether to employ nuclear weapons has been reached?

Proposals for safeguarding the frontier in this way have repeatedly been made by military men in recent years but no attention has been paid to them. Frontier brigades, armed appropriately, could be formed and supported by strong local home guard units, for instance. Only a few heavy armoured divisions would be maintained in the hinterland to be used as spearheads.

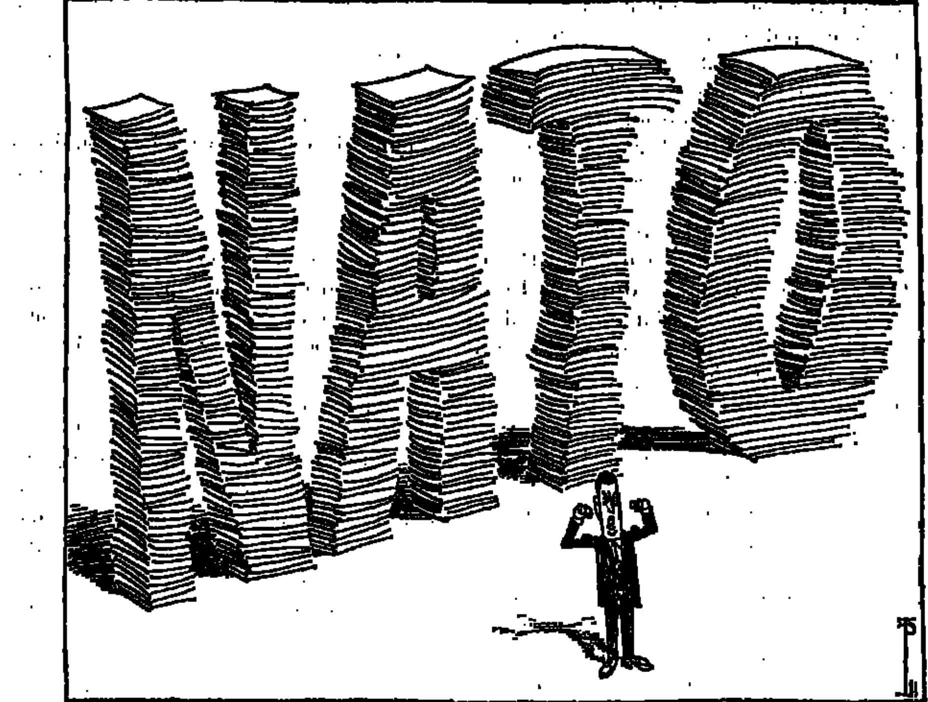
It many well be that the formation of two brigades of *chasseurs* by Bundeswehr Chief of Staff Alfred Schnez is a step in this direction but a decision on a concept has obviously not yet been reached at the Ministry of Defence in Bonn, with the result that a frontier incident would still take place along the Rhine.

Instead hopes are based on the illusion that the Americans might after all be prepared to lower the nuclear threshold. It would be more useful to come to terms with the concept of a flexible response and to make the best of it in both military and political terms.

The Western Allies should, for instance, also be induced by means of negotiations to station stronger units in the immediate vicinity of the demarcation line between the two parts of Germany.

Peter Christian Müller

(Handelsblatt, 13 June 1969)



Nato undefeatable – on paper?
(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

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No French leap into the unknown in the elections

Georges Pompidou's election as President of the French fifth Republic indicates the commencement of a gradual change from what could be called orthodox Gaullism. It heralds the approach of government on liberal-conservative principles, partly presidential, as in the past, and partly democratically parliamentarian.

The majority of those who voted chose to avoid making a brusque change from one regime to another that would have been very different. Conservative instincts triumphed over the urge to make a leap into the unknown.

As in May 1968 the Communist Party decided not to challenge the established order. The Party had no wish to offer support to the representative of General de Gaulle and the Gaullist Party, and equally did not offer support to the opposition candidate, Alain Poher. Georges Pompidou had no approval from the communists nor did Poher, whom it would have been logical for them to support.

Pompidou, however, has to thank the communists for their neutral stance. They did not give their support to his opponent which would have threatened him perhaps.

It is too early to come to any conclusions as regards the foreign policy Georges Pompidou will pursue. The decision the French communists made not to support Poher had nothing to do with a possible foreign policy or even with relations with the Soviet Union.

In this Presidential election the communists sought, above all things, to strike a blow against the "third force" that is appearing on the French political scene, the third force that is intervening between Gaullism and Communism. Their actions have impeded the development of a renewed party coalition between the liberal Centrists and the democratic Left.

Georges Pompidou has promised much in his election campaign speeches. But he cannot, nor could he, fulfil them all. He is the representative of a national conservatism with liberal attitudes. He will be obliged to change the basic substance of Gaullism.

The new French President has stressed time and time again that he will not be the successor of General de Gaulle in all respects. He will merely accept as an inheritance the best of the General's policies. If he can put into effect the political testament that General de Gaulle left behind will only be manifest by events in the next few weeks, months or perhaps years.

Lothar Ruehl

(DIE WELT, 16 June 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Why so many Arab state recognitions of Walter Ulbricht's regime?

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Now that not only Iraq and Sudan but also Syria has decided to establish diplomatic relations with the GDR searching questions as to the reasons and motives for the wave of Arab recognition of East Berlin are being asked in Bonn.

Some politicians in this country evidently credit Arab governments with a great deal of political refinement. They suppose that the intention is to influence the forthcoming Bundestag elections and sow dissension in domestic policy in this country.

The press release of the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions (CDU/CSU) attributes this unwelcome development to the failure of Federal Republic cultural policy abroad, which, it is claimed, has failed to present an effective picture of this country.

The remedy suggested is improved concentration of work in the cultural field and a considerable increase in the funds available.

Considerations such as these fall short of the mark because they amount to no more than an introspective view. From the viewpoint of the Arab world this country is not the centre of the world but the end of the earth. For Damascus or Baghdad what happens in Bonn and what Bonn does or does not do is of secondary importance.

The main reason for their recognition of the equally far-off GDR is the steadily growing influence of the Soviet Union in the Middle East. Sending an ambassador to East Berlin is the diplomatic tribute the Arabs are paying to Moscow in return for Soviet support in the conflict with Israel.

What is more, it is an inexpensive tribute. Its cost in political terms is negligible since Arab countries broke off diplomatic relations with Bonn in 1965 when this country established diplomatic relations with Israel.

When, in 1967, the Arabs, armed by the Soviet Union and encouraged by the Kremlin in their hostile attitude towards Israel, had to accept an overwhelming defeat it looked first as though Moscow had suffered a serious loss of prestige.

Must not the fact that the great protector of Arab nationalism had looked on with arms folded while the Israelis were victorious on every front give rise to doubts as to Russia's reliability and determination? Many observers hoped at the time that outcome of the Arab-Israeli war would lead to alientation between the Arabs and Moscow.

The course events have taken is exactly opposite. The loss of nearly all their armaments has made the Arab states even more dependent on the only great power that immediately declared itself ready to help them re-arm.

The June war also proved that arms deliveries alone were not enough to prevent military defeat. Training to handle the sophisticated weaponry and use it in a tactically and strategically correct manner had been seen to be indispensable.

In realising this the Arabs opened the door to Soviet instructors and advisers all over the Middle East. Because of these circumstances the Soviet Union has succeeded in the past two years in considerably improving its military and political influence in a number of Arab countries.

The Soviet Mediterranean fleet may be the most evident factor in this infiltration but it is probably not the most important. Moscow has devoted most of its efforts naturally enough to Egypt, the leading Arab power.

Since 1967 the Russians have built up a complete military infra-structure in Egypt — arms and ammunition stores, tanks and armoured vehicles in storage and supplies of fuel and spares. Whenever the need arises the Soviet Union would be in a position to operate by land, sea and air from Egypt.

Intensive training of the Egyptian armed forces is another factor. The Israelis have learnt from occasional deserters that all Egyptian commanders down to the rank of battalion commander have Soviet officers attached to them as advisers. A similar state of affairs exists in the Syrian army and in Yemen too the Soviet Union supplies arms and instructors.

The Soviet Union is already preparing to fill the vacuum left by the withdrawal of Britain from the Persian Gulf. In this role Iraq is Moscow's major partner. In an agreement recently reached with the Iraqi government the Soviet Union undertook to build a large fishing port in Basrah. The treaty allows Soviet fishing vessels the right to land at Basrah and use the port as a base for fishing in the Persian Gulf.

Since many a Soviet fishing vessel on the oceans of the world is already equipped with radar rather than nets it is hardly likely that the Russians will be interested solely in fish. Should Moscow feel the need, Basrah could swiftly be expanded into a base for the Red Fleet.

Seldom can a great power have made so much political profit from what at first glance appeared to be a crippling defeat as has the Soviet Union from the defeat of the Arab countries in the Six-Day War of 1967. In historical terms the Soviet Union has taken over the role formerly played by British imperialism in the Middle East. But the outward appearances have changed.

Moscow brings its influence to bear indirectly and not as direct colonial rule. In practice this means that the Arabs are not compelled to play the tune called by the Soviet Union at home. Communist takeovers have not taken place. In foreign policy, however, the Arabs have no alternative but to follow the Soviet line. And this, of course, includes recognition of the GDR by as many Arab states as possible.

Fritz von Globig

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 9 June 1969)

Winzer comes back from UAR empty-handed!

Otto Winzer, GDR Foreign Minister, was unable to conclude his visit to Cairo by announcing a forthcoming exchange of ambassadors. Bonn should, however, no longer accept the news calmly. Since Walter Ulbricht's spectacular visit to Cairo in 1964 East Berlin has spared no effort to encourage Egypt to afford it full diplomatic recotnition.

President Nasser has so far avoided crossing the threshold of diplomatic recognition, but less because of reluctance to demonstrate its entry into the Soviet camp by such a clear move than because playing hard to get has so far paid.

It seems less and less right that Bonn should shun the political bazaar in Cairo. One gesture would be to send a man with extensive knowledge of Arab problems to replace this country's representative attached to the embassy that looks after German affairs. Good participation in the parliamentary trip to Cairo that has been announced on several occasions would be another.

It is, of course, a truism that good advice on Arab matters is expensive in the truest sense of the word. Even so, it would be poor business sense to wait until the last items of merchandise have been swept down the Nile.

(Handelsblatt, 11 June 1969)



Andrei Gromyko in Cairo

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's surprise visit to Cairo cannot solely be explained as the result of a Soviet desire to gain President Nasser's support for some as yet unknown compromise formula drawn up by the four-power talks in New York on peace in the Middle East. Moscow appears to be afraid that the Egyptian regime may topple.

This conclusion may be drawn from a *Pravda* commentary in which the United Arab Republic is reminded in imploring tones of its advantageous cooperation with the socialist countries, of consolidation of the internal front and of the need to solve the conflict with Israel soberly and realistically by political means.

On the same day a commentary penned by *Al Ahram* editor Heikal, a personal friend of President Nasser, appeared in Cairo. In it he predicted a hot winter of conflict to liberate the occupied Arab territories. The contradiction between the two commentaries is evident.

President Nasser's internal front is apparently in such danger that editor Heikal has to issue continual war threats as a release mechanism for the disappointment of the army and the general public with the Soviet ally and at Moscow and Cairo's failure to force Israel to withdraw by either political or military means.

The feeling of frustration strengthens opposition to the Egyptian regime. Partly for this reason (Nasser *does not at this stage want to lay himself open* to accusations of having given in to the Soviet Union yet again) recognition of East Berlin has been postponed. Mr Gromyko must have appreciated why.

(DIE WELT, 11 June 1969)

Gibraltar, the Americans in Spain and the Red Fleet in the Mediterranean

Not only Britain's new constitution for Gibraltar but also two altogether different factors led to the spectacular land blockade of the Rock.

One is Spain's victory in negotiations with the Americans, who in future will have to pay more heavily for their bases on the Iberian peninsula.

The other, and probably the most important aspect of all, is the appearance of the Red Fleet in the Mediterranean, coupled with the creation of Soviet air bases in Algeria.

Only recently, in trade talks with Madrid, the Soviet Union made it clear that Spanish sovereignty over Gibraltar would upgrade the Franco regime in Soviet eyes.

Even in the nuclear age the value of nuclear-proof forts remains, as military surveys show. The Spaniards, who deliberately never mention this point, know second-best only to Britain what the strategic value of the Rock of Gibraltar is.

With a minimum of effort and expense the Rock could be converted into a missile base controlling not only the entrance to the Mediterranean, which is far more important than the exit, but also the Soviet Union's Algerian bases.

By neutralising Gibraltar, as it were, Falangist Spain can gain a far-reaching advantage in dealing with the Soviet Union and Madrid's interest in gaining it is unmistakable.

Axel Severing

(Kieler Nachrichten, 10 June 1969)

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HOME AFFAIRS

Nominal NPD result in Mainz election should not cause complacency

Whenever the pressure is on in German politics the valve always opens to the right, never to the left. The local authority and administrative district elections in the Rhineland-Palatinate have once again borne out the truth of this assertion.

Over the state as a whole, maybe, the National Democrats (NPD) may only have polled 2.4 per cent of the votes but it would be wrong to note this result with self-satisfaction and to point out that this figure is far below the five-per-cent hurdle political parties must clear to enter the Bundestag.

The NPD concentrated its efforts in a number of areas. Where NPD candidates actually stood they were successful, very successful in some cases. Let no one make the results out to be harmless.

In Alzey and Worms constituency the NPD polled 15.3 per cent of the votes. Its success in the Rhineland-Palatinate elections will without doubt provide it with a psychological and propaganda boost in the forthcoming general election campaign.

The major democratic parties continue to be confronted with the task of combating extreme right-wingers by political means, a phrase with which they make great play but have yet to take to heart. Political opposition to the NPD by the major parties has not been particularly evident of late.

Otherwise the Christian Democrats (CDU), Social Democrats (SPD) and Free Democrats (FDP) can all be entirely satisfied with their showing in the Rhineland-Palatinate, difficult though it is to regard local election results as an indication of likely general election showing.

The CDU in particular can pat itself on the back and its performance in particular is of more than local significance. The CDU, which has always led the field in the Rhineland-Palatinate, has for years promoted a systematic and comprehensive administrative reform designed to make the state more up-to-date.

The day before the elections 325 local authorities and eleven administrative districts had been merged with others. The CDU had also not long beforehand replaced the colourless but longstanding state Premier Peter Altmeier by dynamic reformer Helmut Kohl, who, it must be admitted, had decided the party line for some time past.

The broad mass of voters, reputed to be more on the conservative side if anything, particularly in respect of anything that affects them directly, proved not to have been frightened off by these innovations and the bolder style of government. The CDU did not appear to have worn down its support.



If this state of affairs is viewed in terms of the Federal government and the country as a whole it can only be concluded that in the final analysis voters respect decisive action and have more time for the completion of urgent work than for procrastination and the papering-over of sharp contrasts by compromises that no longer ring true.

If only because of their closeness in time to the Bundestag elections and the fact that they represent the last test of public opinion before 28 September the local elections in the Rhineland-Palatinate assume an importance over and above that normally attached to local elections.

In all probability the voters were aware that this was the case and to this extent it is not exaggerating to impute a certain relevance for the general election in September.

SPD and FDP must also have breathed a sigh of relief on hearing the results. The Social Democrats maintained their position well in relation to the CDU and the tension that has existed among the Free Democrats for a number of months does not appear to have affected the party's voters.

The success of the National Democrats remains a worrisome factor. The NPD has gained new ground by being elected to six administrative district assemblies and four town councils. In Kaiserslautern and other areas where GIs are stationed there may be anti-American sentiment for the NPD to exploit but this does not explain the NPD's success everywhere where it stood.

Dissatisfaction, whatever the cause, easily leads to a jolt on the right wing of the political spectrum, which once again disproves the argument that if the NPD were proscribed the Communist Party would also have to be banned. In formal legal terms this may be the case but it is not so in terms of political danger.

In the Rhineland-Palatinate the Communists got nowhere at all. To celebrate a victory over left-wing extremism is to allege a threat that did not exist.

The Grand Coalition in Bonn was shaken by a small earthquake over the same weekend (What did Foreign Minister Brandt really say in Brussels?). Attempts to retain the facade of unity grow more and more convulsive. To draw nationwide conclusions from the Rhineland-Palatinate local elections, always admitting that there is no rock-hard proof that the comparison holds good, this does not seem to be the best way of countering right-wing extremism by political means.

Heinz Murmann

(Handelsblatt, 10 June 1969)

RC church comment on political life out of fashion

No pastoral letter on the Bundestag elections will be issued this year, according to the Archbishop of Paderborn, Cardinal Lorenz Jaeger. Roman Catholic bishops, whose pronouncements on previous elections were circumspect, seem to have realised that the tradition of the election pastoral has had its day.

Good Catholics are found in the Social Democratic Party and in the Free Democratic Party as well as in the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions, said Cardinal Jaeger. *Even* in the FDP, one is tempted to say, since in this party powerful groups are demanding that the division of Church and State with all the implications of such a division in respect of religious instruction and church-tax, should be part of the election programme.

The Roman Catholic Church has an easier relationship with the once vilified Social Democrats. The SPD, and especially Herbert Wehner, the Minister of All-German Affairs, has been making great efforts to relax former tensions with the Church. The SPD is a willing partner in concordat agreements.

A prominent Social Democrat, Georg Leber, the Minister of Transport, is on the central committee of Federal Republic Roman Catholics. The bishops also realise, of course, that today people react more sensitively to advice that smacks of tutelage. Generally speaking, people are now more than ever critical of pronouncements by Church dignitories when these appear to want to represent "the" church. The Roman Catholic Church is very conscious of democratic elements contradiction in its own ranks.

(Hamdelsblatt, 27 May 1969)

SPD aim is national insurance

Social Democratic Bundestag member Arthur Killat told 700 delegates to the party's Hamburg conference of salaried workers that the SPD's eventual aim in the social field was national insurance.

Conference passed a resolution calling for the abolition of differential treatment of various income-levels and categories.

In a speech the text of which was handed to delegates Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller stressed that:

"We cannot loosen our hold on the reins of economic policy as long as the Christian Democrats accept a crisis as God-given and are not unambiguously prepared to undertake all-round measures to ensure stable development of the economy and as long as they cannot explain how, in an inflationary world, price stability is to be maintained at home."

(DIE WELT, 2 June 1969)

Right extremists compete to shout each other down

Konrad Adenauer did not mince words on his political campaigns. He painted the political landscape in bright, glaring colours. He chose to exaggerate rather than to draw fine distinctions. In the 1961 general election campaign he predicted the downfall of Germany should the Social Democrats (SPD) win.

Not long afterwards Adenauer showed interest in a coalition with the politicians of downfall, first to introduce majority constituency voting, second to lengthen his own term of office, which had been limited to 1963. It is one of the rules of the political game that lies can be told before an election. Demagogic excesses must, of course, be avoided.

Assurances have been given on several occasions that democratic parties would fight the National Democrats (NPD) with political weapons. Fighting it out in the political arena, it was stated, is better than an application to ban the party.

But surely to combat Adolf von Thadden and his evasive crew means to unmask their slogans for the pack of lies they are and not to follow the NPD in resorting to a deceptive vagueness. Of late the impression has been created that Christian Democratic (CDU) politicians, and even more so representatives of the Christian Social Union (CSU), the Bavarian branch of the party, have begun to talk the language of the most extreme groups of expellees, almost as though they wanted to outdo the NPD on the right wing.

While the Federal government officially states that the Munich Agreement is not valid and that this country makes no territorial demands on Czechoslovakia, CDU/CSU Bundestag members waffle at meetings and even on television about the possibility of Sudeten Germans and expellees from the Eastern territories returning to their homelands.

To hear them talk the listener would imagine there were a possibility of treaty agreements with Warsaw and Prague and a peaceful return of expellees.

The majority of expellees hold a sober enough view of the political situation. They know that they are the victims of a catastrophe caused by Hitler and that to roll back the historical process that resulted from the total defeat would be possible only at the price of another catastrophe with inconceivable consequences.

Expellees have a clear idea of the depressing living conditions in communist-ruled countries. None of them who enjoy the freedom and prosperity of this country would gladly share the burden and the poverty of life in the countries concerned.

Yet how are the regimes that rule them to be eliminated? Practical politics have to be limited to today and what can be foreseen of tomorrow. In the foreseeable future the return of large numbers of Germans to the East will neither be possible nor desirable from the German point of view.

What democrat can possibly expect reasonable changes as a result of a step in the direction of the NPD's confused talk? At election time there is, it is true, little incentive to tell the truth and argue. So there is good reason to fear that the expellees, who hold a large number of votes, will be told lies in order to ensure their support.

The coarser the arguments from the one side are, the coarser the replies from the other are bound to be. Absolutely fair election campaigns surely never occur. But let us at least not let the present campaign descend to the level of personal villification and unbridled political distortion.

Robert Strobel

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 June 1969)

THE ADMINISTRATION

Are there too many Ministries in operation in Bonn?

In discussions about a major reform of Federal administration a number of reformers in Bonn have even gone so far as to probe the Ministries and have come to the conclusion that it would be better if there were five or six Ministers and Ministries fewer.

The need for one in three of the present nineteen Ministries is questioned, even Ministries that have reached the ripe old age of twenty and have been in existence ever since the Federal Republic was established.

Three of the initial Ministries were not intended to be parmanent institutions. They are the Ministries of Expellees and Refugees, Housing and European Affairs.

The first two are still with us and have, in the course of time and a number of government reshuffles, been joined by five newcomers, the Ministries of Family and Youth Affairs, Federal Assets, Health, Economic Copperation and Scientific Research.

All of them except the Scientific Research Ministry are now candidates for the axe and a number of reformers also reckon that the Bundespost does not really need to be represented by a Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. A Postmaster-General would, they feel, do a better job.

They also doubt whether the Ministry of Bundesrat Affairs is really necessary.

Only the five classic Ministries, Foreign Affairs, the Home Office, Justice, Finance and Defence, and the neo-classical Ministries of Economic Affairs, Agriculture, Labour and Scientific Research remain unquestioned.

At the last-named the further $64,000 question is being asked. What about weeding out inter-Ministerial responsibilities. In many cases the weeds have grown wild and there is a good deal of undergrowth between them.

When the Federal Finance Ministry and the Federal Assets Ministry, which was specially carved out of Finance, do not see eye to eye life can become difficult and the complex as to who is responsible can well weaken the good relations between civil servants who once served in the same Ministry.

The Ministry of the Interior stubbornly defends responsibilities that might well be the concern of the Scientific Research Ministry and the Ministry of Economic Cooperation is soundly wedged in between the Foreign Office and the Economic Affairs Ministry.

The more government departments there are, the more battles over who is competent there will be - sad it may be, true it is. Ambition and activity worthy of a better cause can be aroused by a struggle to defend against others the assumed responsibility of one Ministry for a given sector. Too many cooks undoubtedly spoil the broth.

The number of Cabinet committees designed to offset and coordinate the large number of Ministries is almost beyond number and the Cabinet itself is increasingly becoming a coordinator of its own committees.

In this situation rational government work can only be a wish and not a reality. Reformers are now claiming that a reduction in the number of Ministries will help in combating these sign of paralysis. It will doubtless be a popular cure. It is no coincidence that voters are invariably told before a Bundestag election that the number of Ministries is to be reduced by the next government. The idea appeals to the electorate.

But the voters misunderstand the idea. They imagine that a reduction in the number of Ministries automatically means a reduction in the number of civil servants. Yet what used to be a Ministry will only become a department of another Ministry. Fewer Ministries by no means necessarily means that there will be fewer government officials.

There will only be fewer Ministries and Ministry offices, not fewer Ministry officials. There will not even be that many fewer Secretaries of State, since the enlarged Ministries will need more of them.

Anyone who knows anything about the civil service will realise that the number of staff attached to a department is a sacrosanct figure. For the family and youth organisations the number of officials at the Ministry of Family and Youth Affairs is just such a figure; so, for the expellee organisations, is the staff of the Ministry of Expellees and Refugees and for housing corporations the strength of the Ministry of Housing.

The abolition of the Federal Affairs Ministry would be criticised in many state capitals as a grave blow to the Federal states and the idea of federalism. The Ministry of Health was set up at the urgent demand of medical associations and the Ministry of Economic Cooperation, originally set up to restore the balance during a Christian and Free Democratic Cabinet reshuffle, never tires of assuring all and sundry that development aid is a law unto itself and ought not to be left to the Foreign Office.

Holy cows are not the easiest animals to slaughter. It is easy to talk of fewer Ministries but difficult to follow words by action. And the question that really matters is whether or not there ought to be fewer Ministers.

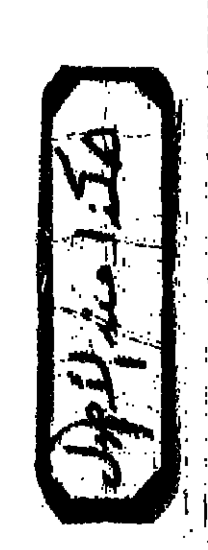
Twenty Cabinet Ministers is not too many for the parliamentary government of a large country, particularly for a coalition government. Were the Ministers merely the heads of their respective Ministries, there would be too many of them. But the Ministers are not the highest-ranking officials of their Ministries.

In practice they are, in a parliamentary democracy, the representatives of the government parties in the Cabinet, and the representatives of the various wings of the coalition parties too. Their number is appropriate to the pluralism of views within their parties.

Twenty Ministries are too many, twenty Ministers are less serious a problem, certainly for a Grand Coalition government. A reduction in the number of Ministries would have to be accompanied by the creation of a number of Ministers without portfolio.

Alfred Rapp

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 9 June 1969)



Reforming the Civil Service presents problems

"How," Chancellor Kiesinger is reported to have sighed, "is a man supposed to govern with this official machine?" Interior Minister Ernst Benda, no guardian of hallowed tradition, is to risk sweeping changes and alter the basis of promotion in the civil service.

Performance is to count before length of service. Talented youngsters are to be allowed to progress to the rank of Ministerial counsellor while still young. Transfer to the higher échelons of the civil service is also to be made easier.

What is, perhaps, even more important outsiders are to be allowed into administration without too much difficulty and civil servants are to be allowed secondment to industry for a time. Flexibility is the keynote.

Surprise and delight are the immediate reactions, combined with an element of confidence. Were this relaxation of the rules and regulations, which does not even call for legislation, to prove successful, this country could gradually look forward to a cheerful, more flexible, imaginative and efficient administration.

Above all, administration with prospects of this kind would attract more young people who can boast the above-mentioned qualities, particularly imagination, efficiency and willingness to take decisions.

Is their cause for confidence? It remains with a certain amount of scepticism to be seen how one of the most powerful organisations in the country, the Civil Servants' Association, will react.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 June 1969)

SPD-CDU dispute will benefit other parties

Mysterious are the ways of great party strategists and they have redoubled their efforts with the forthcoming general election in mind. They have campaigned hard for public sympathy. Each party has lauded itself as the salvation of the Fatherland, the one as the party that ended the 1966 recession, the other as the tried and trusted founding father of the Federal Republic from its beginnings.

The process of stepping down from the Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats and drawing distinctions between the one party and the other is now to be brought to a halt. The propagandists have been whistled to heel. A decision to this effect has been taken by the Kressbronn circle, a group of leaders of the coalition parties. It cannot but be taken seriously.

The reasons for this withdrawal from the election campaign are evident. They follow from the question as to which parties profit most from this rivalry. Neither the Christian nor the Social Democrats stand to benefit from shortsighted jostling of this kind. They cannot win many votes from each other. Their prospects of increasing their share of the vote do not lie in causing the other major party to fray at the edge.

The more the two major parties jealously argue with each other and put dispute before government, the more ground is gained by the view, still current in the subconscious mind of the general public, that party democracy is sterile.

This dissatisfaction, caused by failure to distinguish between necessary debate and tiresome dispute, would benefit the Free Democrats less than it would the National Democrats. Every week of premature election campaigning with its bizarre obligatory moves drives a watchful but yet undecided minority into the arms of those who lick their lips at the weaknesses of others and in view of the convulsions of the major parties are quick to talk in terms of cleanliness, order and the good of the state.

It is also a sign of naïveté on the part of the two major parties that in their coalition agreements they obviously left the last few months before the elections a blank without realising that a coalition cannot be changed over night into two bands of partisans.

To disregard this fact is to squander credibility. Politicians who propose to wage the same election campaign this year as in 1953 or 1957 are sounding the wrong note and will be given their just deserts by the electorate.

On the other hand there is more to the decision to tone down the election campaign than mere applied psychology. So far it has been an open question whether or not the Grand Coalition would be continued after the 1969 general election.

The latest opinion poll figures make it virtually certain that the coalition will survive 28 September. The two parties propose to spare one another in order to resume their alliance after the elections.

As far as Kiesinger, Strauss, Brandt and Wehner are concerned a few more years in joint harness would obviously be only too welcome. They would like to continue the most sweeping change in the history of domestic politics in this country since the war, the participation of Social Democrats in the Federal government.

Parliamentary debate may remain dry and leathery and the influence of a powerful and élitist party establishment may be strong but there can be no gainsaying that this unsatisfactory state of affairs as regards democratic development does result in a fair degree of economic stability and foreign policy firmness.

It remains to be seen whether the alliance of the two parties left and right of the political centre will succeed in achieving another aim, that of keeping down the National Democrats.

It would certainly be a change for the better if the Christian and Social Democrats were not to consume their energies in fighting each other but to marshal their intelligence and their party machines in a determined attempt to outargue Herr von Thadden and his party. It is high time this was done. Opponents should not be sought in the wrong quarter.

Robert Schmelzer

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 June 1969)

THE PRESS

Capitalisation in the newspaper world

SONNTAGSBLATT

Unrest is on the increase among newspaper, radio and TV journalists. Demands are made and statutes drawn up. Eberhard Stammler, chairman of the magazine publishers' voluntary censorship board and a man who should know, presents a situation report.

"The books have to balance," a major magazine publisher recently stated in answer to a question as to the principle on which he based his business. This, it must be said, is fair enough. He went on to say that a publishing house is a firm like any other and is there to do business and not frame policies.

It is certainly true that only a paper that sells can survive and that nowadays only a paper that pays strict attention to the laws of the market can do so. In the last fifteen years one newspaper in three has ceased publication as an independent unit and the number of magazine publishers has declined by two thirds.

The sums of money involved can be judged from recent spectacular sales of magazines to and from Hamburg and Munich in which amounts of up to sixty million Marks had to be paid. A six-figure sum is also being mentioned in connection with the proposed sale of a fifty-per-cent stake in *Stuttgarter Zeitung*.

Publishing a paper nowadays, a right guaranteed every citizen in Basic Law, is only possible with the backing of enormous reserves of capital. Starting the Roman Catholic weekly *Publik* cost fifteen million Marks in initial capital and not even this amount can guarantee the success of the enterprise.

At the first congress of German sociologists in 1910 Max Weber wondered whether increasing capital requirements might not lead to growing monopolisation of existing firms. He felt the need for investigation into whether this growing capital need led to greater power over public opinion or whether it resulted in greater dependence on day-to-day currents of opinion.

Two generations later the problem had become so glaring that the Federal government went so far as to commission a report from the Günther Commission on the Press, without, it may be added, drawing the appropriate conclusions from the alarming results unearthed.

We would like to draw our readers' attention to the NEW YORK TIMES supplement which is to appear on Sunday, 29 June 1969 dealing with many aspects – cultural, economic and political – of life in the Federal Republic, which celebrated the 20th anniversary of its existence on 20 May this year.

Compulsion to compete, Hamburg publisher Gerd Bucerius wrote in an article, makes the intellect the loser in any battle in the Press between intellect and business considerations.

"Nowadays," he wrote, "a newspaper is a success when it uses the language of its readers, strengthening the public's resentment and prejudice and rendering it unfit for the process of change that is socially necessary."

This competition between business and intellect arises from the combination of Press freedom and the free-market economy. In liberal societies it is firmly believed that private enterprise is the best guarantee of a free Press.

This view originally applied to a reading public that corresponded to a relatively small and committed educated class holding decided views. At the beginning of the 1848 revolution the leading German newspaper of the time, Cotta's *Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung*, had a circulation of only 11,000.

Since the arrival on the newspaper reading scene of the broad masses of the general public, however, differences of opinion have been levelled out and information has been steadily less in demand than entertainment.

Karl Kraus, the Austrian satirist and social critic, once defined the law that governs the market as "Je grösser der Stiefel, desto grösser der Absatz" (The larger the boot, the greater the turnover – "Absatz" in German means both heel and sales).

The millions of copies of a newspaper or magazine sold nowadays are, by this definition, proof of the extent to which mass media run the risk of becoming stupid and an opiate of boredom.

It is but a logical consequence of this trend that one of the most successful publishing houses has the contents of its publications selected by computer on the basis of market research data.

If the Press is developing into a chase after fulfilment of consumer requirements there is every reason to wonder, as Gerd Bucerius has done, whether special tax privileges for the Press are still justifiable.

This privilege is justified as long as a public duty is performed. This phrase is generally defined in Press legislation as the journalist is dependent on the publisher. In the final stage dependence is total.

Certainly, the more the publisher allows himself to be guided by market considerations, the less freedom the journalistic staff have to fulfil their public duty and the more exclusively and directly they have to serve commercial ends.

Many people expect legislation to protect editorial boards from the terror of the market. Proposals of this kind, which are mainly made by the trade unions, are unwelcome as far as the publishers are concerned since they, the publishers, would like also, or even first and foremost, to be considered guardians of the freedom of the Press.

Examples set by the French Press provide some indication of the direction protection of the internal freedom of the Press could take. More than twenty staff-owned companies have been set up in France, and a similar number is in the process of establishment.

Le Monde is the best-know example. Forty per cent of the share capital is owned by the heirs of the initial proprietors, forty per cent by the journalistic staff and the remaining twenty per cent by the salaried clerical staff. Staffers intend to use their stake in the paper to gain a say in management.

Jean Schwoebel, president of the association of staff-owned companies, justifies this decommercialisation of the Press on the ground that fulfilment of the Press's public duties can no longer be based, as in the past, exclusively on the principle of private ownership.

It must also be based on the consent of the people who are personally responsible for the information. The astonishing increase in *Le Monde's* circulation certainly proves that *Le Monde* has done well with this formula.

In this country, admittedly, concepts such as these still arouse a storm of opposition. Next to no newspaper publishers have a charter regulating in detail relations and the division of responsibilities between the publishers and the newspaper staff.

A number of attempts have been made of late, but only in cases where there seemed to be a serious danger that the newspaper's policy line might be changed by new management. An editorial council has been formed at *Stuttgarter Zeitung* in order to enforce a right to a say in the event of the half-stake in the paper changing hands. It certainly seems to have achieved its aim of preventing great changes in the style of the paper.

After the editorial boards of Munich-based magazines (particularly *Jasmin*) found themselves changing hands overnight several times in a single year an editorial collective was set up at *Stern* of Hamburg to demand a say, particularly in the naming of the editor-in-chief, in view of prospective changes in ownership of the *Stern* publishers.

The staff of *Westdeutscher Rundfunk*, the broadcasting corporation, also felt the need to press for formal assurances of their responsibility to no one but themselves after it had been suggested in the administrative council that radio journalists might have to be obliged to help the police in the event of an emergency.

These modest beginnings decidedly indicate that internal freedom of the Press, the independence of the editorial board in the face of commercial pressure, is on the way to becoming a chronic problem in this democratic society.

It was not for nothing that the struggle fought last century for democratic freedoms concentrated on freedom of information and expression.

This realisation survives mainly in the Anglo-Saxon world, as evidenced by the words of Lord Thomson of Fleet, the Canadian Press magnate. After buying *The Times* of London four years ago Lord Thomson said:

"My newspapers belong to me only as far as the business side is concerned. As far as the editorial side is concerned they belong to the reader and the community they are intended to serve."

Lord Thomson emphasised to editorial boards that:

"On no account are you to feel any obligation towards my special interests, still less my political views. In my papers the truth and nothing but the truth must be written, for the moment newspapers start publishing distorted truths or half truths or suppress important news they harm not only their readers and society but also democratic progress of any kind."

It is evident that far too few people in this country are aware that democratic progress is at stake in the Federal Republic Press. This, admittedly, is not only a problem of publishers' monopolies but also, and at least as much, one of journalistic format – the extent to which journalists themselves fulfil the public duty to which they feel obliged.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 1 June 1969)

The presses have to roll night and day to pay their way (Photo: dpa)

■ THINGS SEEN

Hannah Höch – one of the first in the Dada movement

It is usually dangerous to base aesthetic opinions on an artist's life. Or at least if the artist's biography tempts one to be sentimental and provides intimations of what is incommunicable or even intangible.

This reservations does not apply to Hannah Höch. Her life and art are closely related, they reflect one another, give each other depth without being dishonestly coupled. The 135 works by Hannah Höch now being displayed at the Kassel Kunstverein make up an important exhibition; it is one of the most beautiful and significant exhibitons held in Kassel for a long time.

Hannah Höch is now nearly eighty years old and was one of the initiators of Dadaism in Berlin. And like Dadaism, she too was forgotten for a while. Not because, having committed herself to the ideology of the Dada movement, she went out of fashion when this trend lost momentum.

Hannah Höch was not limited in this way. She has been temporarily forgotten because the modern artistic scene is constantly characterised by partial blindness. And also because she has an extraordinary talent for keeping out of the limelight.

So, a Romantic? Not at all. She is an artist who devotes all her energies to painting and has done for the past sixty years without falling pray to resignation or introverted idealisation because of scant public recognition.

She might very well have doe so because for thirty years she has lived in a small summerhouse on the outskirts of Berlin. There, having been discredited by the Nazis, she survived the war, living off the fruits of the garden and the occasional proceeds of a still-life which she sold to the baker in order to buy bread.

What prevented Hannah Höch from becoming a philosopher of the simple life was her ability to transmute any kind of optical reality – whether it was the communicated reality of newspapers and magazines (or more recently of television) or the direct reality of flowers and shrubs – into artistic expression. She is not a dreamer but, even at the age of eighty, a shrewd, bright, lively person, surprisingly up-to-date and unaffected.

When she was 22 Hannah Höch left Gotha and went to Berlin. As early as *1916* she was executing her first collages before this word had even been invented. After the First World War she and her Dada friends, Raoul Hausmann, Grosz and *Schwitter, discovered photo- and* fabric-collages.

In the meantime she did not give up painting, just as she never restricted herself by committing herself to a single technique, programme or ideology. And today she is still making collages, painting in water-colours and oils, depicting landscapes, flower still-lifes and people – both socialised man and naive man. Despite all changes, she has remained true to herself within a broad corridor which leads at one end to surrealist objectivity and at the other end to poetic intensification.

Whether she assembles manifestations of the communications media – photographs, writing, news articles and aphorisms – and thus develops a touch of aggressivity, or whether she organises shapes into abstract pictures on the basis of formal inspiration, the end products always bear witness to an extraordinary aesthetic sensibility and clarity: a phenomenon of originality which is not naive or posed but simply touches upon the secret of true art, unlimited in its breadth of expression and precise in every individual detail. It is the precision of imagination which gives both the collages and the paintings depth and is reminiscent of Surrealism in the sense of being "more than real."



Hannah Höch's 'Die Treppe' (Photo: Kas[illegible]

Let one example speak for all h[illegible] works: *Die Treppe* dating from the mi[illegible] twenties. In fact one detail from th[illegible] picture is typical: the cup containing the skyscrapers of Manhattan. It is positioned on one of the lower steps; further up si[illegible] a child. The symbolic meaning is unimportant. What is important is the ordering of seemingly unrelated objects in the picture. Manhattan contained in the cup is the important detail.

Lothar Orzechowski

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 June 19[illegible])

Contributions to Unesco

This country's annual contributions to Unesco have increased by 8.32 million Marks between 1951, when the figure was 639,000 Marks, and 1968. The Federal Republic's share of Unesco's budget went up during the same period from 3.68 to 6.95 per cent. (DIE WELT, 3 June 1969)

Non-European music at West Berlin Festival

ART FROM THE ORIENT AND AFRICA

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Alan Danielou opened the exhibition "Shadow theatre from Cambodia," which is part of the Festival of Non-European Music being held at the West Berlin *Akademie der Künste*, with the comment that the public was not going to be treated to the normal kind of congress, but was to experience art from the Orient and from Africa.

An intelligent and apt remark by a scholar whose international institute for comparative music studies and documentation in West Berlin has been promoting scholarship since 1963. What kind of scholarship? This point was argued for two afternoons during the congress.

Danielou took part in the debate as did Edith Gerson-Kiwi from Tel Aviv, Nicolas Nabokow from New York, Nataletti from Rome, Brigitte Schiffer from London and Tran Van Khe from Paris. The writer of this article, as the chairman of the discussion, tried to deal adequately with the subject. But the topic under consideration, "Classification of musical styles for a universal musical history," proved to be too comprehensive.

It was only argued that contexts such as "classical," "musical ethnology" and "traditional music" were as inadequate and outdated as the word "non-European" in the title of the gathering; this, is was claimed was an expression of Western hubris.

The terms "modal," "Renaissance" and "polyphony" were also proved to be imprecise. Finally, doubts were cast as to whether "tonal expression," indeed "music", was a satisfactory, general term covering the varied musical manifestations of different epochs and cultures.

A practical suggestion by Professor Gerson-Kiwi to the effect that comprehensive encyclopedia should be published, was countered by the announcement of Danielou's vast, annotated record anthology, *Les Sources Musicales – Histoire Universelle de l'Art Musical*, which is being compiled under the auspices of Unesco.

The three concert and dance programmes attracted larger audiences. Unfortunately, the Russian artists from Georgia and Azerbaydzhanskaya were unable to attend the festival. But on the very first day there was music from Ethiopia, which was unfamiliar even to experts.

The ancient Abyssinian lyre, the liturgical choruses and dances of the Coptic church were fascinating in their colourful ceremony. Two young *musicians* from the Lebanon and Iran *played* with incredible skill. In the *hands* of Matar Mohammed, the *buzok* lute produced a confusing profusion of sounds and infinite variations.

Hosein Malek, who has made a name for himself because of his Unesco record and his success at the Shiraz Music Festival, produced some really impressive echo and bisbigliando effects on the santur zither which, like its descendant the jungarian cymbal, is struck with wooden sticks.

It is true that Debussy and List refined these musical forms. But both players stuck to the principle of improvisation on a single type of melody: the maqam from the Lebanon, and the dastgah from Iran.

The third of the programmes, which were performed twice in the studio of the *Akademie der Künste*, featured the Indian dancer Yamini Krischnamurti, who has been admired in this country since her début at Royan. In West Berlin she made an even greater impression perhaps because her traditional, disciplined art gains from a larger stage. Anyone who has not seen this girl dance, does not know one of the greatest dancers of modern times. Her truly meaningful movements are inseparably integrated with the accompaniment of song and music played by flutes, mridanga drums and cymbals.

The *Akademie der Künste* provided the public with some insight into the world of ancient, Oriental and African culture. This may compensate for the difficulty of classifying various types of music.

H. H. Stuckenschmidt

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 May 1969)

Dirks honoured by trade unions

At a ceremony held in the Recklinghausen festival theatre, Walter Dirks was presented with the 1969 cultural prize awarded by the Confederation of Federal Republic Trade Unions (DGB). The prize is worth 20,000 Marks.

Dirks was formerly the director of the Westdeutscher Rundfunk cultural department. In his presentation speech Ludwig Rosenberg, former chairman of the DGB, said that by awarding the prize to Dirks the trade union movement wanted to honour a man whose life and work had been particularly characterised by the comprehensive concept of solidarity.

On the basis of his Christian faith, Dirks felt directly involved in the fate of his fellow man and he had remained true to this belief throughout his life. Rosenberg added that because of his deep faith Dirks also felt bound to participate in political life.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 May 1969)

■ THINGS SEEN

Youth dramatically sets out to confront youth

Small-town theatre can be a thankless business. A theatre may find itself in trouble if it attempts to present "classical" plays in a manner other than which is associated with a certain cultural tradition. It is hazardous for many small theatres to abandon productions of an edifying or entertaining character and present plays which provoke the audience, showing the people what they really ate.

What is acclaimed even in the "better" provincial theatres, because there is a certain snob appeal attached to provocation of this kind, arouses indignation and anger in many small-town theatres.

Hans-Werner Deppisch, one of the most courageous and imaginative directors on the local scene is not deterred by this. He has already given Giraudoux a modern gloss and focused attention on Brecht and Ziem with contemporary political montage. Many people cancelled their subscribtions and Deppisch received threatening letters after his recent production of *Celestina* by Fernando de Rojds.

Deppisch's latest venture is a play by a seventeen-year-old youth who is sick to *the* teeth of the world in which he is growing up.

The young man's name is Thomas Albrecht. He lives in Stuttgart and was educated in a Swiss college. He took part in the Süddeutsche Rundfunk's competition "Write a Play," reached the short list and his play was eventually broadcast.

The director encouraged the young author to turn the television script into a stage play for the Schleswig-Holstein State Theatre. In a few weeks the stage version was completed. It is entitled *"How To Slaughter Sacred Cows."*

The sacred cows that Albrecht is out to kill are familiar. We meet them every day – the careful language of the politicians and clergy, the slogans of scientists and artists, of advertising and the sex industry, of anti-communist firebrands and of intellectual and inarticulate SDS ideologists.

A network of prefabricated opinions, clichées, downright lies and half-truths envelops humanity. Man is shown as an object which does not act anymore and, worse still, which does not think.

The seventeen-year-old harshly states what he thinks of our society. The world in which he lives makes him sick, and he spits in the face of it.

He does not pretend to know anything better. He is sad, bewildered. He knows that he is one of those who disgust him, that he is part of the goings-on he abhors. But he is powerless to change anything.

Albrecht writes unpretentiously and to the point, rather clumsily and adolescent at times, occasionally adopting the rhythmical language of the early Handke. Ideas and citations are crudely mounted. His statements do not take on artistic form. His text is a loose sequence of impressions, devoid of plot and very dependent on the inventiveness of the director and stage manager.

The Rendsburg production is the best so far. It was arranged by Arthur Gracian. Vitality is generated to such a pitch on the stage that the young people in the audience go into ecstacies.



A scene from 'How To Slaughter Sacred Cows' (Photo: Kuke)

The key note is pop. The sets consist of automobile parts. The car windows become television screens which mean the world to us. Beat with a hard hot sound is played by a local band, giving the play more rhythm.

The actors are introduced in a precocious, ironic film made by the theatre to caricature the sexual obsessions of modern society. The actors' vitality is infectious, as if they had just arrived fresh from Living Theatre and Off-off-Broadway.

One gimmick follows the next. Pictures of the present day, pictures of our youth, are flung down at the spectator – too true to be pretty.

Peter Dannenberg

(DIE WELT, 3 June 1969)

Scottish Opera group gets warm welcome in Dortmund

The applause in Dortmund's Opera House was heart-felt. The curtain calls were many. Taking the bows were members of the Scottish Opora who sang for the first time in this country during Dortmund's foreign cultural festival.

Dortmund saw a triumphant production of Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*. The same production is also billed for Hanover and Augsburg.

The quality and success of the group's performance was astonishing considering that it was necessary to form a special orchestra for the production. The Scottish National Orchestra which usually accompanies the group is making a guest appearance at the Bergen festival, under its conductor Alexander Gibson.

Even without Gibson and the National Orchestra, however, the group, led by Roderick Brydon with intelligent, alert and precise conducting, represent probably the highest standard of British orchestral playing at present in Europe. The vocal standard of the production was equally impressive.

Nowhere in the world is such perfect vocal casting achieved as in Glyndebourne or Sadler's Wells. Many would agree, as many would also admit that judging by its Dortmund performance the Scottish Opera should be placed on the same level.

Lady Billows was sung by Judith Pierce with fine, latently hysterical tremolo. This part was made for her. Also well cast were Ronald Morrison as the vicar, Francis Egerton as the mayor and William McCue as the chief of police. On tenor and bass levels the self-importance of these characters came through very well.

Gregory Dempsey was very fine as Albert Herring, awakening from the maladjustments imposed upon him by his environment. Dempsey made a memorable appearance in the Cologne premiere of Bennett's *The Mines of Sulphurs.*

The total impressions that the opera from Scotland gave was one of extreme subtelty and preception of the deeper meanings of the music. Some of the orchestral playing was of an extemely high order, and some of the solo passages were worthy of the best that Europe could present.

The musical nuances were impressed on the audience from the very first production. The whole had about it a simplicity that was reminiscent of late-Victorian art. Adam Pollock was responsible for the stage management, but the director led his performers in a conventional manner. Gestures were heavily accented, underlining the humorous aspects of the score.

A contemptuous lifting of the eyebrows is more devastating than any outburst. In subtle ways a tone of understatement is conveyed and parodied.

Only once does Anthony Besch abandon his undercooled manner, tipping hypocritical morality into pure aggression. This happens when Albert returns from his tour of emancipation and by his unexpected appearence turns the mourning group into an instrument of accusation.

The degree of professionalism and accomplishment is all the more astonishing when it is remembered that the Scottish Opera was founded only in 1962. Administrative and costume facilities have been provided for the group, but it does not have its own stage.

During its four-month season the company gives guest performances in Scotland and in the north of England, books theatres in Glasgow, Edingburgh, Newcastle, Perth and Aberdeen – and sings operas by Mozart, Wagner and Stravinsky. Its modest budget of 250,000 pounds must suffice.

The Arts Council provides half, industry and town contributions make up a quarter and the rest is box-office. Members of the group are attached to the institution only on a guest-singer contractual basis, but they are very loyal to their company.

Besides the actual operatic group that has just presented the first complete production of Berlioz' *Trojans* – in English, Mozart, Verdi and Wagner are usually sung in the original – the company has organised another group that calls itself Opera for All.

This is a training group for young talent. It performs usually in small towns in Scotland, confining itself for the most part to repertory opera in simple form – without ballet and chorus, that is. This group always sings in English.

The Scottish opera was not afraid to take a few risks. The problem of the new generation of directors and producers in opera has been partially solved by the adventurous methods that have been applied.

In Berlioz's *The Trojans* the costumes and the stage accessories were lent by the Stuttgart opera, famous for the ballet directed by John Cranko, and the production was staged by Peter Ebert who works also at Augsburg and is the guest director for the Scottish opera.

This all proves how commercially sensible opera in the Federal Republic is run, when subsidies of a very high order are paid to opera houses throughout the country.

There is an almost utopian aspect in the opera at Aberdeen and Glyndebourne.

Ulrich Schreiber

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 June 1969)

■ EDUCATION

Education in Europe discussed

STUDENTS AMONG DELEGATES AT RECKLINGHAUSEN



It was certainly appropriate that this year's XVIII European Educational Conference should have reconsidered and developed further the subject of last year's discussions, namely "Education Policy in Europe." In the intervening period the political implications of this subject have become even more explosive. The general title of this year's conference was "Democratisation of schools – a slogan or a possibility."

Once again more than a dozen experts in the fields of educational practice and research met in Recklinghausen. A long-overdue innovation was that on this occasion the delegates included a representative of the student body and a pupil who is on the administrative board of his school.

It may be taken as read that both of them behaved sensibly and rationally. Hartmut Siemon, the 19-year-old schoolboy, was particularly impressive. In a pleasing way, his comments and style differed from those of his contemporaries who were present and who held similar views. Unfortunately, when it came to weighty arguments, they proved to be miserable tacticians and all too quickly dispelled sympathy.

When will the revolutionaries finally learn that even amongst their own ranks those with the best manners eventually come out on top? Professor Anweiler of Bochum University, education department, who chaired the conference, had a certain amount of trouble with the revolutionaries despite his democratic tolerance.

It is no wonder that the mere concept of democracy introduces linguistic confusion. Bernhard Tacke, deputy chairman of the Confederation of Federal Republic Trade Unions (DGB), made this abundantly clear in his welcoming address: "But not everyone here who uses the word democracy means the same thing – neither the demand nor the promise are the same." The point of the 1969 Educational Conference was "to further objective discussion and examine the implications of democratisation of our schools, which is frequently being demanded." Tacke summed up the various problems involved in this issue by one precise question: "How much authority does a school need in order to fulfill the essential task it is set?"

Though with obvious differences of opinion, Professor Franz Pöggeler (Aachen) championed the cause of rebellious young people in his speech. He said that politicians and educationalists should not be surprised that many young people do not exactly find this prosperous, *established* society attractive. It was the duty of teachers to transform the stimulus towards a better world provided by the younger generation into a universal impulse.

At schools and universities, at work and gatherings of any kind, adults adopted a dominating standpoint. But the urgent democratisation of the whole educational system should be part of a general reform of the state and of society.

The fact that democratisation of the education system is progressing not much better and in some cases even more slowly in other European countries led to a brief review of the situation, in which the experts quoted facts and figures and personal experiences. In every case the catalogue of ideals and demands was lengthy. The discussion involved sober analyses but also a good deal of futuristic dreaming.

In the end the question as to how far democratisation of the education system had progressed or was indeed possible in countries with a more or less authoritarian structure remained unanswered. Only one representative from the East Bloc, Professor Gustav Bares of Prague University, attended the conference. His comments – perhaps fortunately hampered by linguistic diffculties – were particularly attractive because of their deep humanity.

Amongst other things, the professor pointed out that in Czechoslovakia sixty to seventy per cent of women go to university and ninety per cent of those eventually become teachers. This trend is becoming increasingly noticeable in other European nations including this country.

This is certainly an adequate reason for paying more attention than hitherto to this fact at future European Educational Conferences. Last year there were no women at the conference table and admittedly this was put right on this occasion. But the fact that only one woman (Dr Luciana Savelli of Italy, at present teaching at the Recklinghausen girls' high school) was represented on this body of experts hardly does justice to the realities of the situation.

During the course of discussions the four aspects of any educational democracy – the home, the school, teachers and the administration – came to the fore almost automatically. Parents who rely on physical punishment should not expect the schools to help their children.

Timetables and the content of classes should be orientated towards the educational objectives and necessities of modern advance planning. In the conflict between man and the computer, the cold principle of efficiency and economic thinking should not take first place, if man is to retain his individuality. With the best will in the world, important questions regarding "pupil participation" in conferences, drawing up time tables and the distribution of marks (often referred to as the yardstick of practising democracy) went unanswered.

Looking at the conference generally, anyone who attended last year's gathering had to listen to many points for the second time. Once again appeals were voiced for joint European educational research and for a common education policy. "Common Market, common education system! Away with outdated knowledge or mere repositories of knowledge. Schools must learn to teach!"

(WELT DER ARBEIT, 6 June 1969)

Students of ecotrophology and domestic science!

Nowadays if a young lady is asked what she studies and the reply is, "Domestic Science," the usual reaction is a slight smile and a comment such as, "Oh, you're learning to cook!" But if she were to say, "I'm studying ecotrophology," the reaction would be quite different, at least, "Oh, how interesting!"

The two subjects are one and the same thing but experience indicates that in such cases the unfamiliar loan-word makes a much greater impression. The difficult word "ecotrophology" is based on two Greek words; "economic" is probably familiar and the other Greek root "trophe" means food.

This new branch of science still has to establish itself even within the academic world. It was not introduced by universities themselves, for example, in recognition of the great economic significance of domestic science. The impetus was provided by the 1958 Hessian Teacher Training Act which calls for academic training of teachers at domestic science schools and colleges.

But even without this slight pressure, it is high time that universities studied and communicated scientific knowledge about one of the most important branches of our economy. Between forty and fifty thousand million hours are spent on housework annually in Federal Republic homes. The estimated value of the hours worked by all these housewives amounts to between 32 and 38 per cent of the national product.

But in this context it is not only the economic angles which are important. Studies need to be complemented by scientific and technical subjects since domestic science involves a knowledge of all kinds of materials, diet, health, clothing, gardening and many other topics.

It is no wonder, therefore, that universities have not yet been able to classify this new field of study. At Giessen University the course involves four faculties with the agricultural department bearing the brunt of the teaching.

But this does not mean that the seventy Giessen students who have chosen to study ecotrophology are not optimistic about their futures. Many doors will be open to them; there are jobs for them to tackle at teaching and research institutes, in administration and in government; or they could contribute towards development aid or work as economic or industrial advisers.

This course, which lasts eight semesters, is also of interest to men. At Giessen twenty per cent of the students in this department are men. The course ends with an examination and successful candidates receive an ecotrophology diploma which can serve as the basis for post-graduate studies.

(Hannoversche Presse, May 31, 1969)

Influence of students union declines

Since the Association of Federal Republic Student Unions (VDS) has been struggling for survival it has enjoyed active sympathy from the general public and communications media. When it was healthy and normal, most people took no interest whatsoever of the organisation.

Those who attended VDS conferences listened meekly to the admonitions of prominent public figures to the effect that students should concentrate on their books and be patient about the increase in funds required to implement the Honef plan. Students were also warned not to fall prey to materialism but to support democratic ideals.

Then when the elected representatives of the student unions of Federal Republic universities put forward their views on university reform – and their ideas were

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frequently based on expert knowledge – their occasionally uncomfortable demands were often rejected with the argument that only thirty to forty per cent of students voted in elections. The VDS was therefore a parliament consisting of minority repprescntatives and the majority of students held completely different views.

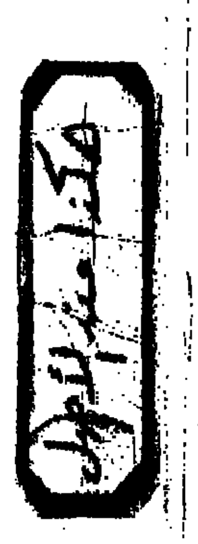
It is not irrelevant to recall the preliminaries to the present tragedy of student representation in this pluralistic society. The fact that the Socialist Students' League (SDS) has now succeeded in filling the four seats on the VDS executive with its own members is not so much an indication of the strength of SDS or of the danger it represents (even if it is interpreted as such); this is more the result of undemocratic handling of student worries and demands.

Even though only one third of students voted in union elections, those elected were legitimate spokesmen. Because the politically committed and hence excitable third of the student body were deeply embittered by the apparently feeble mandate of their representatives, radicalisation gained ground. For two years people in this country have been very concerned about this situation. Now apathy is spreading throughout the universities.

At the recent extraordinary VDS conference in Göttingen the delegates from moderate student unions accepted without much resistance that people who want to keep the sinking ship on a left-wing course are taking over the bridge. The Federal Republic Student Union and the Initiative Committee of Federal Republic Student Organisations are ready to receive converts.

From now on three student organisations will vie for support. The political splintering of the student body will weaken still further student influence in the pluralistic system. Mandates will be even feebler than hitherto. The worst thing which could happen would be for the various organisations to compete for the right to represent student opinion. Increased polarisation and radicalisation would be the consquences.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 June 1969)



■ OCEANOGRAPHY

Meteor explores the unexplored depths of the Mediterranean

In order to investigate the secrets of the Mediterranean the research vessel *Meteor* recently set out on a two-month voyage. The Mediterranean is still a geological mystery, a sea in which mighty geological processes occur, an area with an extremely high incidence of earthquakes where there are numerous active volcanoes – both beneath the sea and on the islands – but there has been no explanation of where these developments will eventually lead.

Is the Mediterranean a new ocean which is gradually extending its limits? Is it a region where the earth's crust is disintegrating? Or is it the crucible of a new Alpine range gradually emerging from the depths?

To date geological and geophysical finds have been decidedly ambiguous. However, several scientific expeditions such as that now being undertaken by *Meteor* have provided significant insight into the structure and development of the Mediterranean.

The *Meteor* voyage will have an international character and will concentrate on interesting geological and geophysical questions. The expedition is being directed by the geophysicist Professor Closs of the Federal Bureau for Research into the Seabed in Hanover; in fact, amongst experts the project has become known as the Closs Plan.

In addition, the Italian Research Committee and the International Comission for Marine Research participated in the planning stages. Scientists from various institutes in this country are taking part in the expedition.

Moreover, the geological explosions set off at sea will be observed from dry land. A large number of foreign scientists will also be contributing towards this research programme the expedition includes one Rumanian, one Madagascan, one Libyan, two Greek and several Italian scientists.

The experts agree that the Mediterranean is not a normal coastal sea as, for instance, the Baltic or the North Seas

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

which surround the European land mass. Depths of over 12,000 feet occur in the Mediterranean and these would be unthinkable in such "peripheral" seas.

It is also agreed that the Mediterranean is not a typical ocean. If it were, one would expect to find a vast deep-sea plain, as in the other oceans, with depths of between 12,000 and 15,000 feet and evidence of balsatic rocks. But the deep-sea depressions in the Mediterranean are relatively small. Whether or not they indicate an "oceanic" crust has not yet been clarified because the relevant geophysical investigations have not been carried out.

A typical ocean also has a "central ridge", an elevation such as the Atlantic ridge which follows the longitudinal axis of the sea. In the Eastern Mediterranean there is in fact an elevation below the surface of the sea which extends from the island of Zakynthos to Crete and Cyprus. This could be an oceanic central ridge. But usually these structural features of the earth's crust are accompanied by magnetic anomalies and the Mediterranean ridge is not typical in this respect.

And so this Mediterranean ridge could be something completely different: a newly emerging mountain range which might one day fill the Eastern Mediterranean, just as the present Alps once displaced and completely encompassed the original Mediterranean Sea a "mere" fifty million years ago.

But it could also be an ancient, submerged mountain range which once protruded far above the surface of the sea. This possibility is corroborated by recent geological observations in the region of Sicily and on the coast of Southern France where mountains protrude into the sea and then suddenly disappear as if they had sunk several thousand metres, into the sea. Other finds indicate great land bridges during the tertiary period between Sicily, Italy and North Africa and between Greece and Asia Minor.

These questions are of particular interest for Italy and Greece because the revolutionary occurrences in the Mediterranean also determined current geological processes – changes in the coastline, volcano activity and the incidence of earthquakes. Clarification of the geological nature of the Mediterranean might also enable such dangerous processes to be foreseen more accurately.

Thus it might be possible to install strategic equipment which would give warning of earthquakes; this kind of early-warning system is being pioneered in the USA and Japan. Up to now such possiblities have not been exploited in the Mediterranean although almost a tenth of the total earthquake activity in the world occurs in this area.

Meteor will concentrate its underwater, seismatic explosions, measurements and collection of samples in certain especially interesting areas. So as to establish a "seismatic profile", blasting will be carried out over several hundred kilometres off the north coast of Tripoli. The objective is to find out whether the African mainland gives way to an "oceanic" crust beneath the surface of the sea, which would prove that the Mediterranean is a "genuine" ocean.

It is possible that, as in West Africa, scientists will find a combination of an oceanic and a continental crust which indicates that part of a continent has broken away and been transformed into an ocean. Investigation of the depth of the Ionian Sea will produce similarly important information.

Geothermic measurements will be taken of the Mediterranean ridge to establish the strength of the earth's thermal flow. If this elevation is a central, oceanic ridge, then the thermal flow would have to be very high.

Exact measurements are to be taken in the central Mediterranean. It is known from ships' soundings that in the last few centuries there have been considerable modifications in the seabed; the seabed has been rising and sinking. But previously no exact information which could be evaluated geologically has been produced. And so the return of the *Meteor* at the end of July will be an exciting event.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 June 1969)

Additional training for GPs called for at Berlin conference

At the 18th Federal Republic Medical Congress recently held in West Berlin the emphasis was clearly on supplementary training for general practitioners. It is becoming increasingly obvious that the individual doctor can no longer be expected to understand fully all the available diagnostic and therapeutic equipment.

The conference president, Professor Gotthard Schettler, director of Heidelberg University Hospital, had engaged a team of lecturers of international repute. In view of the rapid development of medical science, Schettler stressed, the communication of information to general practitions was particularly important. The patient who wants advice first goes to his local doctor; the general practitioner, therefore, has to diagnose the complaint and prescribe treatment.

Technology has an increasingly important role to play in medical practice. Modern diagnostic techniques would hardly be possible without technical aids. This development has encouraged the trend towards group practices in which several doctors share apparatases.

For the first time technological progress in medicine found expression in West Berlin. On this occasion the various exhibitions were not limited to the pharmaceutical industry, but were complemented by displays of technical, medical products.

Medicine seems to be developing in two directions: on the one hand there is a tendency towards general medicine; here the doctor himself is the most important aspect of therapy. On the other hand, diagnosis and treatment now involve such complicated and expensive techniques (such as the use of isotopes) that they only seem sensible within the framework of a clinic.

In his lecture Professor Adolf Portmann, the Basle behaviourist researcher, expressed his views on a fundamental question which concerns both the patient and the doctor. He made some specifically diagnostic points about the manipulation of man as a threat and as an inevitability.

Because of political and social struggles, the word "manipulation" has acquired negative overtones. Professor Portmann said, "The critical phase in the development of the individual is reached when the increase in the rational functions of the brain of the maturing person strengthens the consciousness of this danger and the knowledge of deliberate manipulation.

"This awakening of critical faculties during puberty is an aspect of the generation conflict. One of the most important social responsibilities is to exploit with the greatest caution all the possibilities of cooperation with the younger generation when it comes to the necessary use of manipulation, and to counter the development of critical awareness with frank discussion right from the start."

The scientific debate stressed two topics which are directly inter-related: immunology and questions concerning organ transplantation. Auto-immunity reactions had already been fully discussed in Heidelberg last September at the congress of the Association of Federal Republic Natural Researchers and Doctors. Nothing was added to this discussion in West Berlin.

The greatest difficulties, especially as far as heart transplants are concerned – as the Cape Town surgeon Professor Christian Barnard emphasised – are still caused by the rejection of foreign tissue. Professor Barnard pointed out that only patients in dire straits were considered for such operations. This means that if it were not for this attempt to save them, these patients would certainly die.

Professor D. Jachertz of the Hanover Medical School recalled a problem which has still not been satisfactorily solved. He said that the prerequisite for the deliberate suppression of antibody synthesis is detailed knowledge of the stages leading up to the formation of antibodies.

"An important characteristic of the formation of antibodies is the transference of information from the antigen-recognising cell to the antibody-synthesing cell. Two types of antibody synthesis are differentiated: primary and secondary forms. The inter-reaction of macrophages and antibody-synthesising cells is one of the primary reactions. Through a selective, recognition mechanism the antigen is combined with macrophages and synthesised by a very complicated biochemical process." Thus, recognition of the antigen and antibody synthesis take place in different cells.

During a platform discussion which, surprisingly, did not include leading Federal Republic heart surgeons – for example, Professor Derra (Düsseldorf) or Professor Zencker (Munich) – it was stated that there was little hope of constructing an artificial heart.

As far as organ transplants are concerned, to date one cannot say much more than that the transplantation of a kidney from one identical twin to the other is not experimental medicine but a method of treatment with an almost hundred-per-cent success record.

Finally, Professor Hartmann reminded his audience that the concept of immuno-suppressive treatment was a very recent idea. Only in 1900 Paul Ehrlich talked about the body's inability to destroy its own tissue. Since then, commented the professor, numerous examples of auto-immunological processes have been discovered. They cause very varied manifestations of disease. For instance, it has been noted that the development of cancer metastasis can be stooped through auto-immunity.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 3 June 1969)

■ TOWN DESIGN

Town and road and highway planning are inter-dependent

Either the future of transport will determine the future of our cities or the other way round. Transport and town planning are certainly mutually dependent.

In a metropolitan conurbation population density cannot be increased unless modes of transport are provided to keep pace with developments.

Meaningful transport facilities can only be provided where urban quantities of goods and people make their improvement both necessary and economic.

The connection between the two has not always been acknowledged. All too often local authorities have beavered

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away at building, for instance, new underground railway lines not to areas where there are already a fair number of residents and jobs but to parts of town where next to no one lives and where there are intentions in the foreseeable future of building.

Together with any number of tactical, political, financial and short-sighted considerations the reason for this illogical outlook is the concept of unravelling urban overpopulation, a concept that is anchored in legislation and still rife in the minds of town planners.

At the moment it is just not possible to regulate urban development along projected mass transport facilities so as to ensure that at stops and stations at least highly concentrated sub-centres with as large a population and number of shops as possible within a samll area.

Even the amendment to the building land utilisation regulations recently passed only made recommendations for the improvement of city-centre building land utilisation and does not represent a breakthrough in thought and action.

Appropriate importance was attached to the interdependence of town and transport planning at the recent anniversary meeting of *Süddeutsche Zeitung's* transport forum.

Another problem that is equally important and equally unsolved is that of linking public transport by road and rail. All concerned have shown far too little imagination so far.

There may be thousands of studies and designs for town cars, coin-operated taxis, moving pavements, express lines in vacuum tubes and cars freely available for the use of any member of the general public within the city limits that are parked and left for the next user after use (an idea that would go a long way towards eliminating the shortage of parking facilities, this).

But to this day no convincing, realistic proposal has been made that would combine the advantages of network facilities (fast, inexpensive, large passenger capacity) with those of individual traffic (no restrictions on time and place) both in local and in long-distance traffic and so create the ideal transport system.

The technological gap between earthbound and space travel is already absurd. In principle the motor car has not changed for eighty years and the railway train has remained basically the same for 150 years. Yet a thorough improvement in transport of men, machines and services is needed so more urgently than a survey of the cold, lifeless Moon.

Space research, it is true, does provide a certain spin-off for civilian technology but so far it has done precious little to help improve the situation on the roads.

Maybe some of the difficulties resulting from the continued increase in the amount traffic will solve themselves. Marshall McLuhan, Canada's famous prophet of the TV age, is firmly convinced that in the foreseeable future most of us will no longer have to live within the large city areas to achieve optimum satisfaction of our intellectual and urban requirements.'

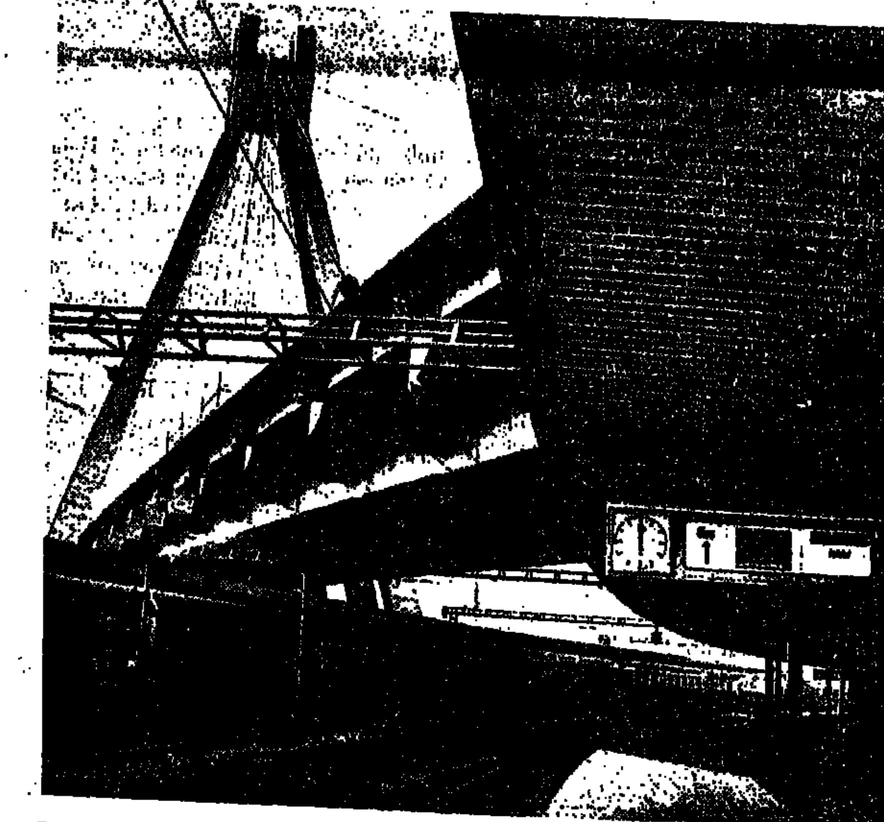
He reckons that telecommunications (TV, pneumatic post, telephone and videophone) will soon make traditional, factual transport of goods and people largely superfluous. His far-seeing eye has visions of the people of the world being spread thinly and evenly over the whole surface of the globe.

According to Mr McLuhan media will make the existence of cities unnecessary. Everyone could live in the country again but be well-informed and supplied with goods and services.

Yet as long as this dubious paradise has not materialised the people concerned must see to it that transport here and now is dealt with in such a way that the structures decided on well be adequate for future requirements as well.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 June 1969)

Europe's most daring railway station



Ludwigshafen central railway station, officially opened by Transport Minister Georg Leber on 29 May, is considered by specialists to be the most daring and up-to-date facility of its kind in Europe.

Following Heidelberg and Brunswick Ludwigshafen is the third city in the Federal Republic of Germany to have an uneconomic central station replaced by a completely new building.

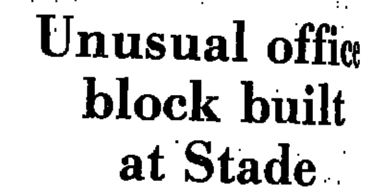
This latest project, which according to the Bundesbahn, German Federal Railways, has been designed with twenty-first century traffic in mind, took seven years to complete and cost roughly 250 million Marks.

The technical and architectural innovation of Ludwigshafen central station is that traffic moves at four levels. Tram lines are underground. A tunnel 1.4 miles long is to form the nucleus of a future underground railway service. Pedestrian and cycle tracks are also below ground.

At ground level north-south train services move in and out, while twenty feet further up east-west services are dealt with. Finally, over and above the railway tracks, an autobahn-type junction-free networks of flyovers keeps motorised traffic on the move.

The nucleus of the flyover system, a 550-yard steel bridge, is suspended on dozens of hawsers from a single pylon that towers 246 feet into the sky and is now one of the sights of Ludwigshafen, a city of chemicals.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 30 May 1969)
(Photo: Robert Häusser)



Unusual office block built at Stade

Nordwestdeutsche Kraftwerke, electric power utility, have built unusual regional office block at Stade small town on the Elbe which will boast a 600-megawatt nuclear power station. The design of the administration block is unique. It is a mixture of bridge-building, shipbuilding and engineering.

The supporting framework of the whole building consists of two giant concrete whalebones. Suspended by supports from these parabolic concrete arches three supporting decks, or storeys hang free.

Apart from the supports the storeys are independent of each other and need no supporting walls. The contractor is at liberty to divide up the three floors as he sees fit inside the continuous strip windows.

The first meeting to be held in the new building, a conference staged on 12 June found the A deck without dividing walls.

Hamburger Abendblatt

Chairs were hired and the entire floor was used as a conference hall. The office walls are to be added at a later stage.

A characteristic design feature of these hanging office gardens are the prestressed lightweight concrete cross-beams spaced at intervals of thirteen feet and used above ground for the first time ever in this country by special permission of the planning authorities. The enormous beam ends make the facade between the whalebones anything but monotonous.

Below the A deck and covering about half the site a transparent ground floor consisting of an entry hall, lecture theatre and various other ancillary rooms has been built. The two lower decks house office accommodation while the top deck consists of an observation pavilion with a panoramic view of the surrounding country.

From this promenade deck, which also has uncovered walks, visitors who cannot be allowed into the immediate vicinity of the reactor will be shown the nuclear power station. The dome of the reactor building will soon be one of the sights of the Elbe.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 30 May 1969)
(Photo: Jack)

■ MODERN LIVING

Music-while-you-work does not increase productivity

Pop music came over the loudspeaker as the girls working in a Saarland textiles factory applied themselves to their machines. One of the girls began to sing and took no notice of the young man who walked up and down between the row of machines. He made notes on how the girls worked, how attentive they were to their work, followed their movements on the job and the coordination between the rhythm and the tempo of their work.

The young man was named Günter Last, a medical student. He walked about among the machines making notes for a doctorate he was writing about music at work. He has finished his thesis and is now Dr Last working at an organisation in Nassau on the River Lahn. His thesis is being published — Musik in der Fertigung (Music in Factories), published by Beuth of Berlin-Frankfurt-Cologne and will give people in the music industry something to think about.

Dr Last came to the conclusion after his four-year-long research into the subject that music at work helped produce a good atmosphere at work. He could not find that music at work had a direct influence on increasing productivity.

Apart from the textiles industry Dr Last investigated music in factories producing heavy machinery, electrical equipment and precision instruments. His findings were fed into a computer at the University of Saarbrücken. The doctor has also studied over 300 related operations in various other parts of the world.

Dr Last intends to publish his findings for the medical profession generally in "Der Zeitschrift für Allgemeinmedizin", a publication dealing with general medical problems.

Dr Last has stated: "Music at work is no subsitute for poor management. Piped music in factories will not aid production methods that are instrinsically bad."

In his article the most catagorical passage reads: "Statements in literature dealing with music in industry fluctutate between a 3 and 20 per cent in increased productivity as a result of this innovation. This figure is not adequately critical. It is impossible to be so definite about production increases as a result of piped music. The increase would nowadays be insignificant when measured against current production methods."

The one positive factor that Dr Last discovered about piped music in factories was that it did reduce the time wasted in trivial conversation and the time workers left their places so as to break up the sheer monotony of their work.

Dr Last wrote: "From these observations one arrives at the prosaic discovery that workers like music. No more."

But this is not true for everyone. Dr Last said: "Music was accepted when the workers had to do monotonous and repetitive work that made few mental demands on the worker. This was as true of factory workers as of office staff whose work was boring. But people who had responsible positions and had difficult work to do were disturbed by music. When the mental effort needed for a job reached a certain level music became a disturbing factor."

Commenting on this Dr Last said: "Qualified people complained about the 'row' when piped music was played at their place of work. On the other hand untrained workers were glad to have the background sound."

If the background music is played too softly then workers tend to concentrate on listening to it rather than giving their attention to their job. The general sound level given when this 'conflict' situation arises is between 3 and 4 DIN.

Despite his critical attitudes to piped music in factories and offices Dr Last considered the frequency when music of this sort should be played while people work if it is going to be played at all.

In his view music should be played, "for from three to six times during the course of the working day. It is particularly important that distraction should be given when work begins, just after a work-break and just before the working day comes to an end. Music played just when the working day begins and after the work break helps create a good atmosphere. If music is played just bef[illegible] the working day ends it equally [illegible] workers in a happy frame of mind."

Dr Last suggested that music sho[illegible] played for about thirty minutes [illegible] work begins and after the breakfast [illegible] and the break at midday. He also sug[illegible]ed that music should be played for [illegible] fifteen minutes just before work ca[illegible] an end and perhaps for fifteen m[illegible] after eleven o'clock.

The doctor warned that it was [illegible] dangeraous to play music too ofte[illegible] was to play it too little and to pla[illegible] of routine. The total two and a ha[illegible] of piped music should be pla[illegible] regular times each day.

Factory girls and office workers p[illegible] to listen to music that is the latest in [illegible] music, according to Dr Last. The [illegible] according to the doctor, prefer to [illegible] national songs, music from operetta[illegible] military music. As people get to be m[illegible] elderly they seem to prefer both [illegible] of music.

Dr Last gave consideration in his [illegible]vey to the question of the value of m[illegible] played in offices and factories in rela[illegible] to the cost of doing so. He was of t[illegible] view that high quality reproduc[illegible] equipment in the office or factory wa[illegible] little consequence. The quality of t[illegible] music broadcast is much more impor[illegible] than the quality of the equipment d[illegible] the broadcasting.

The value of music at work is that [illegible] creates a pleasant atmosphere and t[illegible] there is a better atmosphere among t[illegible] staff. It helps conntcract inner tensio[illegible] and monotony of the job. It also has t[illegible] value that management is taking a kee[illegible] and obviously active interest in the well-being of the people employed.

Management should give special atten-tion to the music chosen to be relayed during the 'music-while-you-work' periods, slow music will induce fatigue but quick music will act as an irritan[illegible] although this kind of music will ma[illegible] workers work faster. Beat increases blo[illegible] pressure.

(Handelsblatt, 6 June 19[illegible])

Unique careers advice centre for the young in Düsseldorf

Young people in Düsseldorf in the very near future will be able to go to a non-stop cinema and to a centre including kiosks with taperecorded messages giving information about careers. There are more than 100 tapes that, free of charge give information to young people about possible careers and jobs they could take up — between 300 and 400 job possibilities.

The careers that are described in the new information service include goldsmiths, glass-blowering work in the church, data computers, inland shipping, opticians, doctors and surgeons.

It is proposed to open the new centre giving information about jobs and careers at the beginning of the school summer holidays and the service will be available to parents, young people and teaching staff.

The project is being supported by organisations in commerce and industry as well as the Federal Republic Labour Office in Nuremberg. It is expected that the project will cost in all something like 40,000 to 50,000 Marks.

At the centre there will be a library offering literature on careers, an advice bureau and trained careers advisers. A clipping service will monitor press reports on careers for the young and précises will be made available to young people wishing to consult these archives.

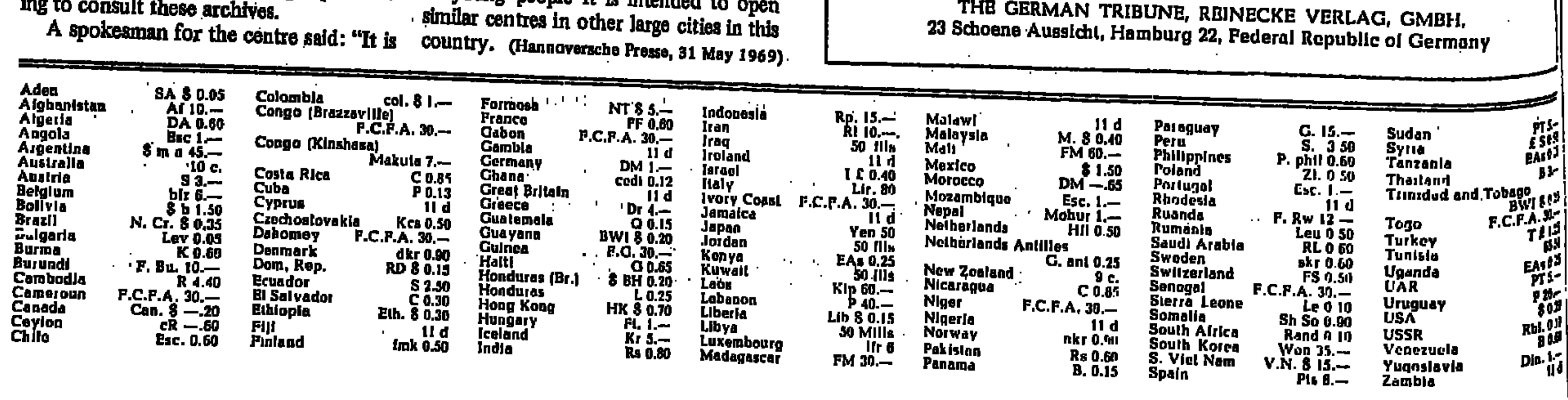
A spokesman for the centre said: "It is not our intention to advise young people, but only to inform them of the possibilities that are avialable. It is not proposed that the centre should be available for people who want to change jobs. We are also not working in opposition to career advisers who are already operating. We hope, rather to be a supplementary advice service to services already in operation."

The ultimate aim of the new centre is to give advice to young people on professional careers and the centre intends to maintain close connections with ten organisation in the Federal Republic with this goal in view.

The centre will also give advice and help to young people suffering from physical incapacities of various sorts.

More than 40 people have been engaged by the centre to operate it. Experts from commerce and industry are of the view that as many as 60 per cent of young people leaving school to enter the labour market have no idea how best to use their abilities or where their interests as regards jobs and careers lie. More should be done during the last months at school to inform young people of the problem of a job that will eventually face them.

If the experiment in Düsseldorf is successful and proves of use in giving help to young people it is intended to open similar centres in other large cities in this country. (Hannoversche Presse, 31 May 1969)



Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft. 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3 50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0 50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12 —
Rumania	Leu 0 50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0 60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0 10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0 10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	[illegible]
Tanzania	[illegible]
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI [illegible]
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	[illegible]
Uganda	EAs [illegible]
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	[illegible]
USSR	Rbl. [illegible]
Venezuela	[illegible]
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d

■ SPORT

IAAF decision catches Munich Olympics organisers on the hop

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Twenty million Marks, maybe even 25, have been added to the bill of the 1972 Munich Olympics. This time the organisers are not to blame. They have been caught on the hop by a decision made by the International Amateur Athletics Federation.

From 1 May 1970, the IAAF has ruled, brand names and insignia of whatever kind must disappear from international events for good. On second thoughts the ruling proves to be a kick in the shins for amateur athletics.

Manufacturers, and not only the two firms in Herzogenaurach, near Erlangen, that between them dominate the world market for track shoes, will end the advertising allocations that in the past have been used to invest considerable sums of money in athletics.

Omega, the Swiss watchmakers, coolly comment that they do not propose to continue on the existing basis. Berg, the Nuremberg sports equipment manufacturer, notes that the joy has gone out of investing money in amateur athletics. Adidas and Puma, track shoe manufacturers, give to understand that their lawyers are working on the subject.

So far the Munich planners have been aware of the irritation felt by track shoe manufacturers but it has not affected them directly. Now the shortsightedness of the IAAF has made mincemeat of their costing.

Omega, for instance, are in future to insist on payment in full for every single service they render to sport. At Mexico City the Swiss watchmakers spent five million Marks of their own money on personnel and electronic equipment, and that was only the beginning.

In addition to time-measuring devices money must also be spent on data processing machinery and electronic scoreboards. "If Munich is reckoning on spending about twenty million Marks," says Omega spokesman Leu, "we can only say that this is a sensible figure."

The Swiss also point out with some annoyance that over the last five years they have spent twenty million Marks on research and development of high-quality equipment for measuring and evaluating performances in sports contests. For this reason alone there could be no talk of mere advertising.

Omega are yet to decide on an official reaction to the IAAF decision. The management are reconsidering their policy towards sport, Omega spokesman in Biel state, and they are certain that Longines, their competitors, will do the same.

The victims of the IAAF ruling are in any case closing ranks. At Berg of Nuremberg the management were delighted to hear of the massive threats made by Biel. "In the past we have considered our trade mark not as an advertisement but as a sign of first-rate quality," Herr Morava of Berg comments.

Berg, however, saw the way the wind was blowing some time ago. "At Mexico City," Herr Morava reveals, "our trade marks were painted over. We took it without saying a word."

For the time being the Nuremberg firm, which claims to have invested considerable sums of money in new developments, is to stop additional expenditure. "As far as we are concerned the joy has been taken out of the whole business." Berg are not yet costing for the Munich Olympics but are determined to sell their gymnastics, athletics and boxing equipment at the full retail price only.

Berg also forecast another danger. Inexpensive, poor-quality foreign products will gain a greater share of the market. "That," they reckon, "can only harm sport." Berg certainly have as little intention as have the track shoe manufacturer of removing their trade marks and Adidas and Puma refuse point blank to manufacture all-white track shoes for international tournaments as demanded by the IAAF.

Berg are also convinced that the IAAF ruling was motivated by more than shortsightedness. "We have the impression that the intention is to give foreign competitors, who up to now have not stood a chance, a new opportunity," Berg spokesman Morava reckons. So does Horst Dassler, who even claims to have sound proof that this is the case.

Dassler intends to file a libel suit against IAAF representative Adriaan Paulen for saying that "someone should get hold of the two Dassler brothers by the scruff of the neck and pack them off to Siberia." (The two brothers are the bosses of the rival firms, Adidas and Puma.)

Paulen also gave vent to his disliking for the whole business by making another allegation. Because imitations of track shoes made in this country are manufactured in Red China Paulen reckons that the Federal Republic firms have their wares made on the cheap in China and sell them at a horrendous profit in Europe.

The track shoe manufacturers, who were the main targets of the IAAF ban, are hitting back in no uncertain terms. The manufacturers affected aim to get together and their company lawyers can already report initial successes.

"There is no ruling on the colour of track shoes in IAAF regulations," Horst Dassler comments. "What is more, the IAAF council propose to make their ruling binding as of 1 May 1970. Yet the decision must first be ratified by the full assembly of the federation and it does not meet until 1 August 1970."

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 31 May 1969)

Heide Rosendahl shows her paces at Leverkusen meet

Heide Rosendahl, gorgeous 22-year-old PT student and pentathlon ace, is on the world record warpath. The favourite at Mexico City, she suffered from an upset stomach and had to look on as Ingrid Becker, several years her senior and also often dogged by bad luck, this time won the Olympic gold at Aztec stadium.

Now it is Heide's turn to show her rival Ingrid and the Russians who is who. A few weeks ago in Leverkusen Heide notched up a new world record (running the new 100 metres hurdles as against the previous 80), scoring 4,995 points. On 1 June in Heidelberg she battled against the phalanx of Soviet athletes and came home to score a new world record of 5,023 points.

She has amply avenged herself for the Olympic gold she failed to win at Mexico City, but what does it matter? At 22 she is young enough to have good prospects at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, and she is hardly likely to suffer from an upset stomach after eating Bavarian fare.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 2 June 1969)

Heide Rosendahl, unlucky in Mexico City but rearing to go in Munich in 1972
(Photo: Nordbild)

Must we bid farewell to two great decathlon stars?

Are the great days of the decathlon stars of the Federal Republic Amateur Athletics Association (DLV), who between 1962 and 1968 won nine out of a possible twelve medals at Olympic Games and European championships, coming to an abrupt close?

Two events make this question an urgent one. At the Heidelberg athletics international this country was convincingly defeated by the Soviet Union and in Austria Joachim Kirst of Potsdam is reported to have scored a near-world-record number of points,

Were there no longer any hopes of sterling performances by world recordholder Kurt Bendlin and Olympic silver medallist Hans-Joachim Walde, both of this country and both sadly missed at Heidelberg (although they could still not have snatched victory from the claws of defeat), the answer to the initial question could only be a sobering "yes."

Joachim Kirst, who is by no means East Berlin's only hope for the decathlon at the European championships at Athens, Nikolai Avilov, victor at Heidelberg and a championship hope not only in the decathlon, and Viktor Chelnakov, who is of virtually the same standard, all have age on their side. Kirst, 22, Chelnakov, 21, and Avilov, twenty, are exactly the right age to make an indelible impression at Munich in 1972.

Among the ageing ranks of the DLV's band of decathlon specialists the age group of the youngsters from Potsdam, Odessa and Moscow is poorly represented. Hans Oberbeck, the newly appointed decathlon trainer, is the last man to blame. Oberbeck took over from his successful predecessor, Friedel Schirmer, at the worst possible moment.

Oberbeck, once a European championship medallist himself, has to pay for past errors of omission, mistakes for which he has no personal responsibility. First and foremost, youth trainers will insist on an outmoded, far too simple programme of events that acts as a brake on performance.

Money is another problem. There was never enough of it to promote youngsters in the same way as Friedel Schirmer's A group was promoted. Now that the trained-out generation of von Moltkes, Bocks and Beyers is torn from injury to injury and lags further and further behind its former bests this enforced neglect boomerangs back on the DLV.

Eager to emulate the decathlon successes of Willi Holdorf, Werner von Moltke, Hans-Joachim Walde and Kurt Bendlin, any number of youngsters would like to try their hand at the decathlon but they may well grow far fewer in number.

Too few opportunities

Most of them come from small athletics clubs and have far too few opportunities to extend themselves under the supervision of ideals and trainers Willi Holdorf and Werner von Moltke, even in many cases being short of the necessary equipment.

"Hardly any of my lads have fibreglass poles of their own," says Willi Holdorf. "Yet many of them are particularly good at the pole vault." His lament followed a youth decathlon tournament.

The Federal Republic rowing eights, which together with the decathlon specialisrs have been the pride and joy of athletics fans in this country for the past decade, have gained financial support until Munich.

Decathlon specialists have lived too much from hand to mouth and even then there is not always enough. Heidelberg could well be the starting signal for a long downhill trek. What a thing to happen before the Munich Olympics, at which the decathlon is to be paid special attention in field and track events!

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 4 June 1969)